

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DIVISION OF LIVESTOCK DISEASE CONTROL

REPORT

JULY 1, 1956 - JUNE 30, 1957

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF LIVESTOCK DISEASE CONTROL

July 1, 1956 - June 30, 1957

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE:

The report of the Division of Livestock Disease Control for the fiscal year July 1, 1956 to June 30, 1957, inclusive, is herewith submitted.

The accelerated Brucellosis program inaugurated in the fiscal year 1956 has gone forward rapidly this year. On October 11, 1956 the so-called Brucellosis law "An Act Relative to the Control and Eradication of Brucellosis in Bovine Animals" became effective. This law was approved by the legislature July 13, 1956. Under this law an owner may be reimbursed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a grade animal and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a purebred animal.

The Division, in cooperation with the Federal government, has put on an intensive program to test for Brucellosis all cattle in the Commonwealth.

To June 30, 1957, three counties -Dukes- Barnstable and Suffolk have become Certified Accredited Brucellosis-free areas.

Under the provisions of Chapter 129 of the General Laws (Tercentenary Edition) as amended by the above Chapter 527, Rules and Regulations applying to the eradication of Brucellosis were approved in council September 13, 1956.

Order No. 52 (Interstate Shipments) was also approved in council September 13, 1956. The principal change in the requirements for interstate shipment of cattle is a blood test for Brucellosis fifteen (15) days after entry.

Dr. William H. Shannon, Chief Veterinary Health Officer of this Division, retired on October 31, 1956 after a long and meritorious service for the Commonwealth. His services began November 1, 1914 and with the exception of military leave of absence on the Mexican Border and during two world wars, continued until his retirement October 31, 1956.

Dr. Winslow E. Merrill was appointed Chief Veterinary Health Officer as of November 1, 1956.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Chapter 319, Section 33, General Laws, Tercentenary Edition as amended by Chapter 272, Acts of 1934 and Chapter 417, Acts of 1946 and amendments thereto.

There were eight thousand six hundred and ninety-six (8,696) tuberculin herd tests, one hundred seventy-one thousand three hundred and ninety-four (171,394) animal tests applied to which sixty-five (65) head of cattle or $\frac{4}{100}$ of 1% were declared reactors, as compared with nine thousand one hundred and seventy-eight (9,178) tuberculin herd tests, and one hundred eighty-five thousand and three (185,003) animal tests applied the previous fiscal year to which ninety-six (96) head of cattle or $\frac{5}{100}$ of 1% reacted.

Forty-five (45 or 69% of the sixty-five (65) cattle declared to be reactors were reported as having "no visible" lesions of tuberculosis at time of slaughter.

One thousand four hundred and fifty-five (1,455) herds containing ten thousand six hundred and forty-six (10,646) head of cattle, included in the census report of June 30, 1956, were disposed of by owners prior to the census for the period ending June 30, 1957.

Three hundred and twenty-six (326) herds in which testing has not previously been conducted and containing two thousand and forty (2,040) head of cattle recorded in the following tables as "first tests", are included in the census report for the period ending June 30, 1957.

Tuberculin tests are conducted by State and Federal accredited veterinarians under a State and Federal Cooperative Plan for the establishment of tuberculosis-free herds and the eradication of bovine tuberculosis.

Following is a summary of tuberculin tests as made by veterinarians for the twelve month period of this report.

	<u>Herds</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Reactors</u>
Veterinarians paid by the State on a salary basis	761	16,617	6
Veterinarians paid by the Federal Government on a salary basis	157	2,701	19
Veterinarians paid by the State on per diem basis	245	4,958	-
Program veterinarians paid by State or Federal Government	7,491	145,356	40
Veterinarians authorized at request of and paid by the owners	42	1,762	-
	<hr/> 8,696	<hr/> 171,394	<hr/> 65

TUBERCULIN TESTING BY MONTHS

	FIRST TESTS				RETESTS											AGGREGATE TOTALS				
	CLEAN				CLEAN				WITH REACTORS											
1956-1957	Hrd	Pb	Gr	Total	Hrd	Pb	Gr	Total	Hrd	Pb	Gr	Ttl	Pb	Gr	Ttl	Hrd	Pb	Gr	Total	R
July	11	4	26	30	88	135	1514	1649	1		15	15		1	1	100	139	1555	1694	1
August	17	135	26	161	72	281	823	1104								89	416	849	1265	
September	4	5	18	23	102	169	1625	1794	1		98	98		2	2	107	174	1741	1915	2
October	12	1	53	54	594	1529	6672	8201	2		65	65		2	2	608	1530	6790	8320	2
November	21	4	155	159	703	3253	12972	16225	3	31	75	106		3	3	727	3288	13202	16490	3
December	35	15	240	255	1237	4335	21533	25868	6	3	459	462		7	7	1278	4353	22232	26585	7
January	30	94	195	289	1354	3822	24924	28746	8		564	564		9	9	1392	3916	25683	29599	9
February	76	88	452	540	1762	5576	29479	35055	12	90	354	444	3	10	13	1850	5754	30285	36039	13
March	51	9	189	198	1314	5386	22042	27428	7		224	224		21	21	1372	5395	22455	27850	21
April	31	11	122	133	725	2969	11643	14612	3	15	138	153		4	4	759	2995	11903	14898	4
May	29	16	136	152	320	1045	4320	5365	2	1	11	12	1	1	2	351	1062	4467	5529	2
June	9		46	46	53	205	906	1111	1		53	53		1	1	63	205	1005	1210	1
	326				8324				46							8696				
		382				28705				140							29227			
		1658					138453				2056							142167	171394	
				2040				167158				2196		4						
														61						
															65					65

TUBERCULIN TESTING BY COUNTIES

	FIRST TESTS				RETESTS												AGGREGATE TOTALS				
	CLEAN				CLEAN				WITH REACTORS												
1956-1957	Hrd	Pb	Gr	Total	Hrd	Pb	Gr	Total	Hrd	Pb	Gr	Ttl	Pb	Gr	Ttl	Hrd	Pb	Gr	Total	R	
Barnstable	8		12	12	64	95	602	697								72	95	614	709		
Berkshire	52	49	433	482	898	3958	16694	20652	4		193	193		4	4	954	4007	17320	21327	4	
Bristol	29	9	205	214	799	2440	15378	17818								828	2449	15583	18032		
Dukes	5		9	9	45	78	397	475								50	78	406	484		
Essex	12	7	44	51	493	3621	7854	11475	2		31	31		2	2	507	3628	7929	11557	2	
Franklin	54	7	301	308	1037	2196	18077	20273	6		547	547		7	7	1097	2203	18925	21128	7	
Hampden	25	30	60	90	666	1386	7987	9373	1		22	22		1	1	692	1416	8069	9485	1	
Hampshire	24	22	108	130	885	2857	14600	17457	5	3	174	177	1	4	5	914	2882	14882	17764	5	
Middlesex	20	8	87	95	705	2834	10068	12902	2		172	172		3	3	727	2842	10327	13169	3	
Nantucket	4		24	24	11	54	51	105								15	54	75	129		
Norfolk	20	118	53	171	334	1673	4750	6423	2	1	144	145		4	4	356	1792	4947	6739	4	
Plymouth	31	45	60	105	508	1572	8147	9719	8	48	270	318	1	8	9	547	1665	8477	10142	9	
Suffolk					2	41	32	73								2	41	32	73		
Worcester	42	87	262	349	1877	5900	33816	39716	16	88	503	591	2	28	30	1935	6075	34581	40656	30	
	326				8324				46							8696					
		382				28705				140							29227				
			1658				138453				2056							142167			
				2040				167158				2196							171394		
													4								
														61							
															65					65	

COUNTY CENSUS AND INFECTION

as of

JUNE 30, 1957

County	Herds	Head	Infection			Three Head or Less*	
			Herds	Head	Reactors	Herds	Head
Barnstable	71	633				51	81
Berkshire	951	20,659				277	545
Bristol	818	17,066				263	464
Dukes	51	511				27	48
Essex	506	11,411				149	275
Franklin	1,118	20,829				302	606
Hampden	767	9,557				259	466
Hampshire	925	18,424				255	483
Middlesex	724	13,010				264	487
Nantucket	15	129				11	23
Norfolk	360	6,669				125	226
Plymouth	547	9,531	4	180	5	235	416
Suffolk	2	75					
Worcester	1,925	39,744	2	87	2	563	1,027
TOTAL	8,780	168,248	6	267	7	2,781	5,147

*Included in columns 2 and 3

APPRAISALS

	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
July '56				1	\$190.00	\$190.00	1	\$190.00	\$190.00
August									
September				2	400.00	200.00	2	400.00	200.00
October				2	450.00	225.00	2	450.00	225.00
November	1	\$350.00	\$350.00	2	475.00	237.50	3	825.00	275.00
December				7	1,277.50	182.50	7	1,277.50	182.50
January '57				9	2,350.00	261.11	9	2,350.00	261.11
February	3	1,310.00	436.67	10	1,880.00	188.00	13	3,190.00	245.38
March				21	4,690.00	223.33	21	4,690.00	223.33
April				4	940.00	235.00	4	940.00	235.00
May	1	300.00	300.00	1	175.00	175.00	2	475.00	237.50
June				1	315.00	315.00	1	315.00	315.00
	5	1,960.00	392.00	60	13,142.50	219.04	65	15,102.50	232.34

SALVAGE

	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
July '56				1	\$80.95	\$80.95	1	\$80.95	\$80.95
August									
September				2	191.95	95.98	2	191.95	95.98
October				2	115.00	57.50	2	115.00	57.50
November	1	89.00	89.00	2	172.79	86.40	3	261.79	87.26
December				7	542.22	77.46	7	542.22	77.46
January '57				9	952.78	105.83	9	952.78	105.83
February	3	324.12	108.04	10	749.83	74.98	13	1,073.95	82.61
March				21	1,806.82	86.04	21	1,806.82	86.04
April				4	446.75	111.69	4	446.75	111.69
May	1	75.00	75.00	1	55.00	55.00	2	130.00	65.00
June				1	101.70	101.70	1	101.70	101.70
	5	488.12	97.62	60	5,215.79	86.92	65	5,703.91	87.75

INDEMNITY

	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
July '56				1	\$72.70	\$72.70	1	\$72.70	\$72.70
August									
September				2	138.70	69.35	2	138.70	69.35
October				2	223.33	111.67	2	223.33	111.33
November	1	174.00	174.00	2	203.47	100.74	3	375.47	125.16
December				7	490.18	70.02	7	490.18	70.02
January '57				9	931.49	103.50	9	931.49	103.50
February	3	650.58	216.86	10	753.44	75.34	13	1,404.02	108.02
March				21	1,922.12	91.53	21	1,922.12	91.53
April				4	328.82	82.20	4	328.82	82.20
May	1	150.00	150.00	1	80.00	80.00	2	230.00	115.00
June				1	142.20	142.20	1	142.20	142.20
	5	974.58	194.91	60	5,284.45	88.07	65	6,259.03	96.29

QUARANTINE STATION AT BRIGHTON

Dairy Cattle:

	<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>Released on Papers</u>	<u>Released after Test</u>	<u>Permit to Kill</u>	<u>Returned to Owner</u>
Maine	360	360	-	-	-
New Hampshire	153	153	-	-	-
Vermont	2	2	-	-	-
	<u>515</u>	<u>515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

DISEASED CATTLE RECEIVED AND RELEASED FOR IMMEDIATE SLAUGHTER:

	<u>T.B. Reactors</u>	<u>From Quarane tined Herds</u>	<u>Brucellosis Reactors</u>
Massachusetts	66	24	551

Dairy cattle were restricted to special yards that have been cleaned and disinfected regularly.

All trucks carrying tuberculin or Brucellosis reactors have been cleaned and disinfected before leaving the yards.

Total number of livestock received at this station was as follows:

Cattle	-	60,687	Sheep	-	4,325
Calves	-	100,366	Swine	-	29,607

GOATS

This Division will arrange for the tuberculin testing and blood testing of goats provided the owner signs an agreement to the effect that any goats declared as reactors to either test will be immediately disposed of for slaughter with no compensation allowed by the Commonwealth.

Two hundred (200) goats were tuberculin tested and three hundred (300) blood tested. No reactors were found to either test.

INTERSTATE RECEIPTS OF CATTLE

DAIRY CATTLE RECEIVED ON PERMITS

Canada	4,590	New Jersey	21
Colorado	1	New York	3,662
Connecticut	789	North Dakota	1
Delaware	64	Ohio	22
Illinois	22	Oklahoma	2
Indiana	2	Oregon	10
Iowa	21	Pennsylvania	20
Maine	2,245	Rhode Island	226
Maryland	3	South Carolina	2
Michigan	3	Vermont	6,991
Minnesota	2	Virginia	31
New Hampshire	1,097	Washington	1
		Wisconsin	390
			<hr/> 20,218

EXPORTS

Interstate certificates of health were issued on five thousand one hundred nine (5,109) head of cattle and three (3) goats exported to other States and Countries as follows:-

<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>HEAD</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>HEAD</u>
Arkansas	7	New Jersey	36
Alabama	1	New York	2,443
California	3	North Carolina	39
Canada	38	North Dakota	1
Canal Zone	2	Nova Scotia	8
Connecticut	431	Ohio	52
Cuba	18	Oregon	1
Florida	2	Oklahoma	4
Germany	31	Pennsylvania	17
Idaho	4	Puerto Rico	3
Indiana	17	Quebec	5
Illinois	9	Rhode Island	1,081
Iowa	8	South Carolina	4
Louisiana	2	South Dakota	1
Maine	146	Tennessee	1
Maryland	30	Texas	3
Michigan	54	Turkey	2
Minnesota	9	Vermont	197
Mississippi	2	Virginia	8
Missouri	20	Washington	1
Nevada	4	Wisconsin	10
New Hampshire	354	Total	5,109

Three goats were shipped to Florida.

BRUCELLOSIS

Chapter 129, General Laws as amended by Chapter 527 Acts of 1956

This law did not become effective until October, 1956.

As stated in preface three counties - Dukes, Barnstable and Suffolk - became Certified Accredited Areas.

During the fiscal year owners were reimbursed for twenty-four (24) purebred cattle amounting to \$1,200, and two hundred ninety-five (295) grade cattle amounting to \$7,359.12, or a total of \$8,559.12.

Following is a tabulation of the results of laboratory examination of the blood samples from cattle under this program, and also from goats:

	<u>Negative</u>	<u>Reactors*</u>	<u>Suspicious*</u>	<u>Others**</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cattle	107,566	1,021	4,207	1,235	114,029
Goats	349	-	-	10	359

* Includes bloods from vaccinated cattle.

** Containers broken, insufficient amount of blood, or hemolyzed.

Certified Herds:

Certified Bang's Disease-Free Herds	-	1,416
Cattle in Certified Bang's Disease-Free Herds	-	25,034

Under the present law, Chapter 527 Section 36B, all calves in the Commonwealth must be vaccinated against Brucellosis when they are from the ages of four (4) through eight (8) months.

Following are tables indicating the number of calves vaccinated by months and by counties:

CALFHOOD VACCINATION
(by months)

		Salaried Agents (State)		Federal Agents		Program Agents		Private Agents		TOTALS	
		Herds	Head	Herds	Head	Herds	Head	Herds	Head	Herds	Head
July	1956	18	38			307	942	8	20	333	1,000
August		19	44	14	32	399	1,108	4	9	436	1,193
September		14	20			329	898	11	41	354	959
October		19	50	1	10	578	1,434	9	27	607	1,521
November		21	53	10	15	508	1,329	9	23	548	1,420
December		21	48			630	1,649	3	7	654	1,704
January	1957	37	108			609	1,527	2	9	648	1,644
February		20	42			705	1,771	7	13	732	1,826
March		31	66	3	10	643	1,828	2	6	679	1,910
April		28	52	10	22	475	1,372	3	6	516	1,452
May		17	24	11	29	465	1,273	2	10	495	1,336
June		4	5	4	8	284	795	4	11	296	819
Totals		249	550	53	126	5,932	15,926	64	182	6,298	16,784

CALFHOOD VACCINATION

(by counties)

County	Herds	Head
Barnstable	35	83
Berkshire	866	2,678
Bristol	433	1,037
Dukes	28	54
Essex	359	1,137
Franklin	1,128	2,581
Hampden	501	1,117
Hampshire	661	1,787
Middlesex	479	1,268
Nantucket	8	19
Norfolk	190	494
Plymouth	252	704
Suffolk	1	7
Worcester	1,357	3,818
TOTAL	6,298	16,784

PERMITS TO FEED COOKED GARBAGE TO SWINE

Four hundred fifty-nine (459) permits to feed garbage to swine were issued.

LICENSED DEALERS IN BOVINE ANIMALS

During the fiscal year there were three hundred six (306) licenses issued to dealers in dairy and beef cattle, and four hundred thirty-eight (438) plates sent out for use on the trucks operated by these dealers.

A total of fourteen thousand three hundred thirty-three (14,333) dairy cattle and one thousand four hundred twenty-six (1,426) beef cattle were reported by licensed dealers as purchased and sold.

RABIES

Under Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations (Chapter 111, General Laws as amended by Chapter 265, Acts of 1938) Sections 6 and 7 "Dog Bite" is declared a disease dangerous to public health.

Order No. 34, Section 3 of the Division of Livestock Disease Control regulations reads: "All dogs known to have bitten persons shall be quarantined for a period of fourteen (14) days for observation, at the end of which period if no symptoms of rabies have developed said animals may be released from quarantine on order of the Director."

Investigation of reported injuries inflicted to persons by biting of dogs and the quarantining of such dogs is one of the duties of the Inspector of Animals.

The following tabulation includes injuries reported inflicted by dogs and other animals:

RABIES

	Showing Symptoms			Contacts				Bite Cases				Total
	Positive	Negative	Questionable	Released Contacts	Killed or Died No Symptoms	Killed or Died Positive	Pending	Released Quarantined Animals	Killed No Examination	Killed Negative	Pending	
Brought Forward								757				
July 1956								878	1	20		
August								1369	2	13		
September								1111	2	22		
October								1035	5	12		
November								899	4	11		
December								579	1	22		
January '57								639	1	8		
February								599		15		
March								833	4	19		
April								1245	4	11		
May								1845	9	18		
June								1731	2	22		
Forward											655	
Total								13520	35	198	655	14,408

ANIMALS INVOLVED

Dogs								13455	35	138	648	
Cats								53		15	6	
Raccoons								1		2		
Chipmunks								1		3		
Horses								1			1	
Rats								1		3		
Monkeys								4				
Minks								1				
Seagulls								2				
Mice								1		1		
Squirrels										12		
Foxes										13		
Rabbits										8		
Bats										3		
Total								13520	35	198	655	14,408

The heads of one hundred thirty-eight (138) dogs, fifteen (15) cats, twelve (12) squirrels, thirteen (13) foxes, eight (8) rabbits, two (2) raccoons, three (3) rats, three (3) chipmunks, three (3) bats, and one (1) mouse, were received at the laboratory for examination, all of which were reported negative.

Fifteen thousand two hundred eighty-seven (15,287) persons were bitten by dogs and other animals. Thirteen thousand seven hundred forty-nine (13,749) persons were bitten by animals quarantined and released, one thousand three hundred sixty-six (1,366) by stray animals, and one hundred seventy-two (172) bitten by animals the brains of which were examined at the laboratory.

MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

Actinomycosis: One (1) cow was reported as affected with this disease, quarantined, and later slaughtered.

Avian Tuberculosis: This disease was reported in poultry on two (2) premises. On one (1) premises there were approximately thirty (30) adult hens from which an affected specimen was taken. Advice was given to slaughter all adult birds and cleanse the premises. On the other premises there were about fifty-(50) hens involved. They were slaughtered and the premises cleansed.

Blackleg and Malignant Edema: Preventive treatment was administered to one thousand seven hundred sixty-five (1,765) cattle on one hundred thirty-six (136) premises.

Equine Encephalomyelitis: Forty-seven (47) horses on forty-three (43) premises were reported affected, also one (1) sparrow and one (1) monkey. The disease was reported in pheasants on fifteen (15) different premises and in six (6) pigeons on another premises.

Swine Erysipelas: Ninety (90) swine from a herd of one hundred (100) were reported to have died of this disease. The balance were treated.

Mange: This disease was reported in six (6) cattle on three (3) premises. The cattle were quarantined and later upon recovery were released.

Mucosal Disease: One (1) steer was reported affected with this disease and slaughtered.

Ringworm: One (1) cow was reported affected with this disease, was quarantined, and released on recovery.

Tuberculosis: One (1) cat was reported to be affected with this disease and was destroyed.

ANNUAL INSPECTION OF NEAT CATTLE, SHEEP, AND SWINE

In accordance with Section 10, Chapter 129 of the General Laws, the annual inspection of neat cattle, sheep, and swine and of the premises where kept was completed.

Reports received from the cities and towns showed that inspection indicated the following information:

COUNTY	HERDS	NEAT CATTLE	HORSES	SWINE		SHEEP	GOATS
				HERDS	HEAD		
Barnstable	60	564	189	13	200	265	74
Berkshire	864	19,981	764	106	1,155	884	276
Bristol	854	17,034	622	113	10,633	1,346	240
Dukes	48	471	81	5	13	1,431	15
Essex	500	11,267	763	93	10,584	985	317
Franklin	1,032	20,361	619	147	1,325	1,081	135
Hampden	622	9,159	393	68	2,522	512	130
Hampshire	903	17,049	577	133	2,748	1,015	122
Middlesex	705	12,656	1,422	158	25,505	1,031	226
Nantucket	14	120	1	3	20	24	-
Norfolk	331	6,337	820	48	5,249	473	219
Plymouth	559	10,451	811	75	10,701	1,510	278
Suffolk	2	73	115	4	1,606	-	2
Worcester	1,976	39,640	1,362	153	14,904	1,768	611
TOTAL	8,470	165,163	8,539	1,119	87,165	12,325	2,645

Of the total number of cattle inspected one hundred thirty seven thousand ninety-two (137,092) were listed as dairy cows, nine hundred sixty-one (961) were listed as purebred bulls, and twenty-two thousand six hundred eighty (22,680) as purebred cows.

Regional meetings of Inspector of Animals were held in the month of December in Boston, Greenfield, Segregansett (Dighton) Pittsfield, Springfield and Worcester.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward M. Dwyer
EDWARD M. DWYER,
DIRECTOR